

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 063419
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:RGRICH:FLW
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S/S-O - TMARTIN
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 063419

NODIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PGOV, KS, US

SUBJECT: SPEAKER O'NEILL MEETS WITH ROK AMBASSADOR

1. WE ARE INFORMED THAT ROK AMBASSADOR KIM MET WITH HOUSE
SPEAKER O'NEILL TODAY AT THE SPEAKER'S REQUEST TO DISCUSS
THE ETHICS COMMITTEE HEARINGS.

2. ACCORDING TO JAWORSKI'S DEPUTY, PETER WHITE, THE
SPEAKER PLANNED IN GENERAL TERMS TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPOR-
TANCE OF FACILITATING FURTHER TESTIMONY TO ENABLE THE
ETHICS COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE ITS WORK, BUT WOULD NOT SPECI-
FICALLY CONVEY ANY COMMITMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE.

3. ROK EMBASSY INFORMED DEPARTMENT AFTER THE MEETING THAT
THE SPEAKER EXPRESSED GREAT APPRECIATION FOR THE SUCCESS-
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PAGE 02 STATE 063419

FUL ARRANGEMENTS FOR TONGSUN PARK'S TESTIMONY, WHICH HE
CHARACTERIZED AS HIGHLY USEFUL. SPEAKER THEN SPOKE OF
THE NEED FOR COMMITTEE STAFF TO SEEK SOME INFORMATION
FROM FORMER AMBASSADOR KIM TONG-JO IF THE INVESTIGATIONS
ARE TO BE TERMINATED SATISFACTORILY, AND URGED THAT THE
AMBASSADOR CONSULT WITH PRESIDENT PARK ON THIS PROBLEM.
KIM REPORTEDLY ADVISED THE SPEAKER AGAINST BEING OPTIMISTIC

THAT ANY SUCH TESTIMONY WOULD BE POSSIBLE, BUT UNDERTOOK
TO CONSULT WITH PRESIDENT PARK DURING HIS FORTHCOMING

CONSULTATIONS IN KOREA LATER THIS MONTH. THE SPEAKER
INDICATED HE DID NOT EXPECT AN IMMEDIATE REPLY. BOTH
AGREED THAT THE MEETING WOULD REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.

4. WE ANTICIPATE THAT PRIOR TO AMBASSADOR KIM'S RETURN TO
KOREA THE ETHICS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE WILL SPECIFICALLY
CONVEY TO HIM ITS DECISION NOT TO PURSUE FURTHER WITNESSES
IF SOME SATISFACTORY ACCESS CAN BE OBTAINED TO KIM TONG-JO.
WE STILL HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF SENATE ETHICS COMMITTEE
CONCURRENCE IN SUCH AN OVERTURE. ACCORDING TO PETER
WHITE, THE SENATE SIDE IS STILL HOLDING OUT AT LEAST FOR
ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY FROM PARK CHUNG-SOO. WE DO NOT
KNOW WHETHER THIS NAME HAS BEEN COMMUNICATED TO ROKG.
ANY COMMENTS EMBASSY HAS ON THIS INDIVIDUAL WOULD BE
USEFUL. VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 063419
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DRAFTED BY: EA:JBADER
APPROVED BY: EA:JBADER
S/S-O:SVALERGA

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 063419

NODIS
FOR DEPUTY ASST SECY GLEYSTEN ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 063419, SENT SEOUL 11 MARCH:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 063419

NODIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PGOV, KS, US

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1. WE ARE INFORMED THAT ROK AMBASSADOR KIM MET WITH HOUSE SPEAKER O'NEILL TODAY AT THE SPEAKER'S REQUEST TO DISCUSS THE ETHICS COMMITTEE HEARINGS.

2. ACCORDING TO JAWORSKI'S DEPUTY, PETER WHITE, THE SPEAKER PLANNED IN GENERAL TERMS TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF FACILITATING FURTHER TESTIMONY TO ENABLE THE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 063419

ETHICS COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE ITS WORK, BUT WOULD NOT SPECIFICALLY CONVEY ANY COMMITMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE.

3. ROK EMBASSY INFORMED DEPARTMENT AFTER THE MEETING THAT THE SPEAKER EXPRESSED GREAT APPRECIATION FOR THE SUCCESSFUL ARRANGEMENTS FOR TONGSUN PARK'S TESTIMONY, WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS HIGHLY USEFUL. SPEAKER THEN SPOKE OF THE NEED FOR COMMITTEE STAFF TO SEEK SOME INFORMATION FROM FORMER AMBASSADOR KIM TONG-JO IF THE INVESTIGATIONS ARE TO BE TERMINATED SATISFACTORILY, AND URGED THAT THE AMBASSADOR CONSULT WITH PRESIDENT PARK ON THIS PROBLEM. KIM REPORTEDLY ADVISED THE SPEAKER AGAINST BEING OPTIMISTIC THAT ANY SUCH TESTIMONY WOULD BE POSSIBLE, BUT UNDERTOOK TO CONSULT WITH PRESIDENT PARK DURING HIS FORTHCOMING

CONSULTATIONS IN KOREA LATER THIS MONTH. THE SPEAKER INDICATED HE DID NOT EXPECT AN IMMEDIATE REPLY. BOTH AGREED THAT THE MEETING WOULD REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.

4. WE ANTICIPATE THAT PRIOR TO AMBASSADOR KIM'S RETURN TO KOREA THE ETHICS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE WILL SPECIFICALLY CONVEY TO HIM ITS DECISION NOT TO PURSUE FURTHER WITNESSES IF SOME SATISFACTORY ACCESS CAN BE OBTAINED TO KIM TONG-JO. WE STILL HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF SENATE ETHICS COMMITTEE CONCURRENCE IN SUCH AN OVERTURE. ACCORDING TO PETER WHITE, THE SENATE SIDE IS STILL HOLDING OUT AT LEAST FOR ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY FROM PARK CHUNG-SOO. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THIS NAME HAS BEEN COMMUNICATED TO ROKG. ANY COMMENTS EMBASSY HAS ON THIS INDIVIDUAL WOULD BE USEFUL. VANCE UNQUOTE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 11 mar 1978
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